Exemption from Consumer Protection Act

1830. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought exemption from the Consumer Protection Act on the plea that it has caused confusion in the working of the Railways Claims Tribunals;

(b) if so, the number of cases presently under examination relating to poor services and facilities with Consumer Protection Wing and the Railway Claims Tribunals; and

(c) the steps Government propose to expedite the cases pertaining to railway commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Directors of Grievances have been nominated at Divisional, Zonal and Ministry level to ensure expeditious disposal of cases pertaining to railway commuters. These officers are also available for meeting the members of public on appointed days. The performance of Public Grievances Redressal Machinery is constantly under watch and is reviewed periodically for further improvements.

टाटा नगर और पटना के मध्य सुपर-फास्ट ट्रेन शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव

1831. **श्री गया सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या टाटा नगर और पटना के बीच बरास्ता बोकारो-स्टील सिटी कोई सुपर फास्ट ट्रेन शुरू करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के॰ सी॰ लेंका): (क) जी, नहीं

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) परिचालनिक कठिनाइयों तथा संसाधनों की तंगी।

बोकारो स्टील सिटी और पटना के मध्य सुपर-फास्ट रेलगाड़ी का चलाया जाना

1832. **श्री गया सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बोकारो स्टील सिटी और पटना के मध्य एक सुपर फास्ट रेलगाड़ी शुरू करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब से; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के॰ सी॰ लेंका): (क) जी, नहीं

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) परिचालनिक कठिनाइयों तथा संसाधनों की तंगी।

Survey of Daund-Baramati-Lonand

1833. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have carried out viability survey for new rail link Daund Baramati-Lonand of Satara Road in Phalton on Central Railway;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to complete Daund with Lonard or Satara Road on priority in view of reduction of running time and distance for trains going Meeraj/Goa-Kolharpur-via Daund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for new BG line for extension of Daund-Baramati line from

Baramati to Lonand via Phaltan (approximate length-54.164 kms.) has been recently completed by Central Railway.

(c) The survey report is under examination. Further action will be considered after examination of the survey report.

Capacity of Nileshwar Goods Shed

1834. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Southern Railway Palghat Division has increased the placement capacity of Nileshwar Goods Shed of F.C.I. to accommodate a full rake of 55 wagons from the present 35 wagons.

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the porters of the Nileshwar Goods Shed of F.C.I. have opposed this decision and they have represented against this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The capacity has been increased from 35 to 55 wagons to handle increased traffic.

(c) Labour Society engaged by F.C.I. has filed a case in High Court of Kerala against handling of additional wagons and the matter is sub-judice.

Proposal for setting up of new Division In Western Railways

1835. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals for opening new Division in Western Railways have been received by Government so far;

(b) how many of them have been accepted;

(c) what are the criteria adopted in acceptance of these proposals;

(d) the reasons for not opening a new Railway Division at Ahmedabad/ Gandhinagar; and

(e) whether Central Government accepts in principle the request of Government of Gujarat for opening a new Railway Division at Ahmedabad or Gandhinagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Government have received suggestions/proposals for the opening of new Divisions at Ahmedabad/ Gandhinagar and Surat on Western Railway.

(b) to (e) New Railway Divisions are set-up taking into consideration the size, workload, growth and pattern of traffic and other operational and administrative requirements of the Railways consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency. Prevailing financial constraints have, for the present, precluded the possibility of going in for any new Division on the Railways.

पुरुषोत्तम-एक्सप्रेस रेलगाड़ी द्वारा बोकारो स्टील सिटी और टाटानगर को जोड़ना

1836. श्री गया सिंह: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली और पुरी के मध्य चलने वाली "पुरुषोत्तम एक्सप्रेस" द्वारा बोकारो स्टील सिटी तथा टाटानगर को जोड़ने में क्या कठिनाइयां हैं;

(ख) क्या उक्त ट्रेन को तीन दिन वर्तमान रूट से और तीन दिन प्रस्तावित बनारस बोकारो-टाटानगर रूट से चलाने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो प्रस्तावित परिवर्तन के कब तक प्रवृत्त होने की संभावना है; और

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (ख) का उत्तर "नहीं" है तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के॰ सी॰ लेंका): (क) पुरुषोत्तम एक्सप्रेस एक सुपरफास्ट गाड़ी है और भुवनेश्वर और दिल्ली के बीच तीव्र गाड़ी सेवा सुलभ करती है। इस गाड़ी को बोकारो स्टील सिटी के